

1. (Twice Amended) Use of a glass composition for the treatment and/or prevention of dental caries, the glass composition comprising the general empirical formula given below, expressed in weight percent of each element:

P: 16-24

F: 5-30

O: 20-40

and at least one of Na, K, Li or Al in an amount up to a total of 40% by weight.

6. (Twice Amended) Use of a glass composition as claimed in claim 4, wherein the one or more other glass modifiers are included in an amount of up to 10% by weight.

8. (Twice Amended) Use of a glass composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein aluminum is included in the glass composition in an amount of at least 3% by weight.

9. (Twice Amended) Use of a glass composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least 25% by weight oxygen is included in the glass composition.

10. (Twice Amended) Use of a glass composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the phosphorus is included in an amount of 18-23% by weight.

11. (Twice Amended) Use of a glass composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least 12% by weight of fluoride is included in the glass composition.

16. (Twice Amended) Use of a glass composition as claimed in claim 15, wherein the dental restorative material is selected from the group consisting of dental amalgams, twice fissure sealant resins, and composite bonding materials.

18. (Twice Amended) A method for the treatment and/or prevention of dental caries, the method comprising attaching a glass composition to a tooth to provide a fluoride releasing device, the glass composition comprising the general empirical formula given below, expressed in weight percent of each element:

P: 16-24

F: 5-30

O: 20-40

and at least one of Na, K, Li or Al in an amount up to a total of 40% by weight.

22. (Amended) Use of a glass composition as claimed in claim 21, wherein the boron or silicon are included in an amount up to 5% by weight.

23. (Amended) A method for the treatment and/or prevention of dental caries as claimed in claim 18, wherein the glass composition further includes at least one of boron or silicon in an amount up to 5% by weight.

24. (Amended) A glass composition suitable for use in treating or preventing dental caries comprising, on an empirical basis, at least 16% by weight phosphorus, at least 25% by weight oxygen, 5-30% by weight fluoride, and at least one of sodium, potassium, lithium or aluminum in an amount up to a total of 40% by weight.

49. (Amended) A glass composition as claimed in claim 48, wherein the boron or silicon are included in an amount up to 5% by weight.

Please add new claims 51 and 52 as follows:

51. (New) A glass composition suitable for use in treating or preventing dental caries comprising, on an empirical basis, 18-23% by weight phosphorus, 20-40% by weight oxygen, 5-30% by weight fluoride, and at least one of sodium, potassium, lithium or aluminum in an amount up to a total of 40% by weight.

52. (New) A glass composition suitable for use in treating or preventing dental caries comprising, on an empirical basis, at least 16% by weight phosphorus, 20-40% by weight oxygen, 5-30% by weight fluoride, at least one of sodium, potassium, lithium or aluminum in an amount up to a total of 40% by weight, and at least one of calcium, magnesium, or zinc in an amount of up to a total of 10% by weight.